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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 99 (b)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.13

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[1] and the Habitat Agenda,[2] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul on 14 June 1996,

Also recalling its resolutions 52/190 of 18 December 1997 and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to decisions of Habitat II and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Further recalling its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on environment and human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,[3]

Having also considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session,[4]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] A/54/_.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8).

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1. *Takes notes with appreciation* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to strengthen the capacity of Habitat, in particular the normative area, and to improve the linkages between normative and operational activities of the Centre so as to enable it to effectively exercise its vital role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Acting Executive Director in the revitalization of the Centre, and encourages the Executive Director to fully implement, as a matter of urgency, all administrative and financial management reforms, as part of the ongoing revitalization process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the staffing of the new organizational structure is completed as a matter of urgency in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender balance, including in particular improving the status of women in the Secretariat and bearing in mind the need for recruitment of qualified staff in accordance with the relevant United Nations rules and regulations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General as a matter of urgency to appoint a full-time Executive Director for the Centre in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/242;

6. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the United Nations Environment Programme within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities, with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi as the only United Nations headquarters located in a developing country;

8. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001, and reiterates the recognition by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session that this implementation will require substantial additional funding and its request to the Executive Director to raise more funds from all sources and to broaden the donor base;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with current budgetary practices and procedures;

10. *Welcomes* the decision by the Economic and Social Council to devote its coordination segment in the year 2000 to human settlements issues and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the report submitted to the Council under the segment along with its recommendations be made available to the General Assembly for its consideration under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".